

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-6, 12-17, 19-24, and 27-40 are currently pending in the subject application, and are presently under consideration. Claims 1, 4-6, 14, 15, 17, 19, 22-24, 27-29, and 34-36 are rejected. Claims 12, 13, 16, 20, 21, 30-33, and 37-40 have been allowed. Claim 14 has been amended. Claims 1, 4-6, 16, 17, 19, 22-24, and 27-29 have been cancelled. Favorable reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the amendments and comments herein.

I. Rejection of Claims 12, 13, 20, and 21 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 14, 15, 17, 19, and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,314,146 to Tellado, et al. ("Tellado"). Claim 14 has been amended. Claims 17, 19, and 22 have been cancelled. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

Claim 14 has been amended to substantially recite the elements of claim 16, now cancelled. Claim 16 has been indicated by the Examiner as allowed. Therefore, amended claim 14 should now be in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 14, as well as claims 15 and 34-36 which depend therefrom, is respectfully requested.

II. Rejection of Claims 1 and 4-6 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1 and 4-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tellado in view of U.S. Publication No. 2003/0099302 to Tong ("Tong"). Claims 1 and 4-6 have been cancelled, thus rendering this rejection moot.

III. Rejection of Claim 23 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claim 23 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tellado in view of Publication No. WO 01/43320 A2 to Kupferschmidt, et al. ("Kupferschmidt"). Claim 23 has been cancelled, thus rendering this rejection moot.

IV. Rejection of Claims 24-26 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claim 23 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tellado in view of Tong and further in view of Kupferschmidt. Claims 24-26 have been cancelled, thus rendering this rejection moot.

V. Rejection of Claims 27, 29, 34, and 36 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claim 27, 29, 34, and 36 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tellado in view of Publication No. WO 02/058291 A1 to Uesugi ("Uesugi"). Claims 27 and 29 have been cancelled. Claims 34 and 36 depend from claim 15, which depends from claim 14. As described above, claim 14 has been amended to substantially incorporate the elements of claim 16, now cancelled, which has been indicated as allowed. Therefore, claims 34 and 36 should be in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 34 and 36 is respectfully requested.

VI. Rejection of Claims 28 and 35 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claim 27, 29, 34, and 36 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tellado in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,104,946 to Yin ("Yin"). Claim 28 has been cancelled. Claim 35 depends from claim 14. As described above, claim 14 has been amended to substantially incorporate the elements of claim 16, now cancelled, which has been indicated as allowed. Therefore, claim 35 should be in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 35 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and that the application be passed to issue.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,

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/Christopher P Harris/

Christopher P. Harris
Registration No. 43,660

Customer No.: 26,294

Tarolli, Sundheim, Covell, & Tummino l.l.p.
1300 East Ninth Street, Suite 1700
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
Phone: (216) 621-2234
Fax: (216) 621-4072